

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7329
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
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AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA

CONFIDENTIAL WARSAW 2203

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR PL CA
SUBJECT: HUSAK VISIT TO POLAND

1. THE MAIN SUBJECT DISCUSSED BY HUSAK AND GIerek DURING THEIR TALKS IN ZAKOPANE MARCH 28-29, ACCORDING TO POLISH PRESS ACCOUNTS, WAS "STRENGTHENING BROTHERLY RELATIONS", INCLUDING INCREASING TRADE BEYOND THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN AND DEVELOPING A LONG-TERM CONCEPT OF POLISH-CZECHOSLOVAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITHIN THE CEMA FRAMEWORK. PREMIER PIOTR JAROSZEWICZ AND CENTRAL COMMITTEE OFFICIALS RYSZARD FRELEK AND JERZY WASZCZUK PARTICIPATED IN THE DISCUSSIONS, IN ADDITION TO MILULASZ BENIO AND VRATISLAV VAJNAR OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE. TRYBUNA LUDU ON MARCH 29 ANNOUNCED THAT JAROSZEWCZ WOULD VISIT CZECHOSLOVAKIA "IN THE NEAR FUTURE".

2. COMMENT. THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE POLISH-
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CZECHOSLOVAK TREATY OF ALLIANCE AND THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP, COOPERATION, AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE, BOTH IN MARCH, WOULD HAVE MADE AN EXCELLENT OCCASION OF GIerek TO PLAY UP HUSAK'S VISIT IF HE HAD WISHED. INSTEAD, THE TWO-DAY TALKS WERE HELD WITH A MINIMUM OF CEREMONY, WELL AWAY FROM WARSAW. THE LOW-KEY TREATMENT OF THE HUSAK VISIT RESULTS FROM THE DIS-

TASTE WITH WHICH THE GREAT MAJORITY OF POLES VIEW THE
CZECHOSLOVAK REGIME AND ITS TREATMENT OF THE CHARTER 77 GROUP.
WE ARE INCLINED TO GUESS THAT, FOLLOWING THE SOFIA CON-
FERENCE, THE PZPR LEADERSHIP CONCLUDED IT WOULD BE A GOOD
IDEA TO TALK WITH HUSAL IN AN EFFORT TO REDUCE HIS SENSE
OF ISOLATION FROM HIS IMMEDIATE NEIGHBORS ON THE ISSUE
OF TREATMENT OF DISSIDENTS AND, BY INDIRECTION AT LEAST,
TO TRY TO STRENGTHEN HIS "MODERATE" POSITION WITHIN THE
CZECHOSLOVAK LEADERSHIP. IF THERE IS SOME
TRUTH IN REPORTS THAT, AT THE SOFIA CONFERENCE OF IDEO-
LOGICAL SECRETARIES, THE SOVIETS AND CZECHOSLOVAKS TOOK
THE HARDEST POSITION, THE POLES COULD BE EXPECTED TO TRY
TO REDUCE THE AREA OF DISAGREEMENT. OF COURSE, THERE
WAS PRESUMABLE ALSO DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS.
END COMMENT.

DAVIES

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